

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-02 H-02 NSC-05 CPR-01

A-01 PRS-01 INR-07 /043 W  
----- 115849

R 111537Z APR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8774

UNCLAS LAGOS 03353

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, NI  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

REF: STATE 073945

1. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S DRAFT OF SUGGESTED REMARKS FOR  
AMBASSADOR EASUM'S CREDENTIALS CEREMONY AS REQUESTED REFTE:

2. QUOTE: I HAVE THE GREAT HONOR TO PRESENT TO YOU THE LETTERS  
OF CREDENCE BY WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,  
GERALD R. FORD, ACCREDITS ME AS HIS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY  
AND PLENIPOTENTIARY TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA. I AM  
DEEPLY CONSCIOUS OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES THIS MISSION ENTAILS  
AND THE CHALLENGES&OPORTUNITIES IT WILL AFFORD AS WELL.  
THIS IS A TIME OF MOMENTOUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
IN NIGERIA AND A TIME OF SERIOUS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS ON  
THE WORLD SCENE. THE DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF THE  
CORDIAL AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN NIGERIA AND  
THE UNITED STATES HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT.

3. MY GOVERNMENT FOLLOWS WITH GREAT INTEREST YOUR CURRENT  
ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
PARTICULARLY AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE IMPRESSIVE THIRD NATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND THE PLAN FOR UNIVERSAL PRIMARY I.,  
WE HOPE THE EXTENSIVE BUSINESS AND EDUCATIONAL CONTACTS AND THE  
MUTUAL INTERESTS WHICH WE ENJOY WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE A CONSRUIE  
CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROGRESS AND WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE OF NIGERIA.  
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RM THE UNITED STATES HAS A RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE FROM NIGERIA,  
AAND AS THE COUNTRY WITH THE SECOND LARGEST BLACK POPULATION IN THE  
WORLD, RANKING ONLY AFTER THE FEDRAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, MY  
COUNTRY HAS MANY STRONG LINKS WITH YOURS. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD  
TO THE SECOND WORLD BLACK AND AFRICAN FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS AND  
CULTURE, WHICH WE WISH ALL POSSIBLE SUCCESS AND WHICH WE TRUST WILL  
CONTRIBUTE FURTHER TO THE STRENGTHENING OF TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO  
COUNTRIES. IN THIS REGARD, YOUR EXCELLENCY, MAY I MENTION THAT  
THE UNITED STATES WILL ALSO BE CELEBRATING A GREAT FESTIVAL IN THE  
NEAR FUTURE, OUR BICENTENNIAL. THE EVENTS OF 1776 BEGAN A PROCESS  
OF SIGNIF FOR MANY NATIONS THROUGHTOUT THE WORLD, NOT THE LEAST  
OF THEM BEING NIGERIA. IT IS OUVNCERE HOPE THAT NIGERIANS WILL  
HELP US IN CELEBRITHIS EVENT, AND THAT THE BICENTENNIAL LIKE  
THE BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL WILL SERVE TO STRENGTHEN OUR COUNTRIES'  
FRIENDSHIP.

5. MY GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE THE GREATEST  
ADMIRATION FOR THE REMARKABLE SUCCESS THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS  
ACHIEVED IN NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND REINTEGRATION, A PROGRAM  
EXECUTED WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE AND WITH CHARITY FOR ALL.  
YOUR PERSONAL LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN CRUCIAL IN THIS EFFORT AND HAS  
WON FOR YOU A HIGH PLACE AMONG WORLD STATESMAN.

6. STATESMANSHIP HAS BEEN EVIDENT NOT ONLY IN NIGEIRA'S CONDUCT  
OF HER DOMESTIC AFFAIRS, BUT ALSO IN HER ACTIONS ON THE WORLD  
STAGE. YOUR GOVERNMENT'S POSITIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE, AND SKILLFUL  
DIPLOMACY HAS NURTURED ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FAR-FLUNG  
COUNTRIES OF THE CARIBBEAN, AFRICAN, AND PACIFIC REGIONS. ON THE  
CONTINENT OF AFRICA -- IN THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY LAND  
IN ITS BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH AFRICAN STATES-- NIGERIA IS A  
LEADER, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF ITS RESOURCES-- ECONOMIC AND MILITARY--  
AND THE ENERGY OF ITS PEOPLE, BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF ITS MORAL STATURE  
AND ITS FIRM COMMITMENT TO MAJORITY RULE AND THE CAUSE OF HUMAN  
RIGHTS. IN THE UNITED NATIONS NIGERIA'S COUNSEL COMMANDS RESPECT,  
FOR IT COMBINES REASONABLENESS WITH ADHERENCE TO STRONG PRINCIPLES.  
OUR GOVERMENTS MAY FIND THEMSELVES AT VARIANCE OVER PARTICULAR  
ISSUES, BUT LET NO ONE BE MISLED, THE UNITED STATES WELCOMES NIGERIA'S

STEADY PRINCIPLED AND WISE STATEMANSHIP ON THE WORLD SCENE.

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UM THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF NATIONS IS BECOMING EVER MORE OBVIOUS.  
RATHER THAN ACRIMONY AND THE THREAT OF CONFRANTATION BETWEEN THE  
OELOPED AND THE DEVELOPING NATIONS, THE WORLD NEEDS MATURPN  
FORTHRIGHT DISCUSSION BETWEEN PERSONS OF GOOD WILL IN ORDER TO SOLVE  
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEEMS WHICH BESET US ALL.

IM I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF YOUR  
GOVERNMENT TOWARD THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THESE TASKS, FOR I KNOW

NIGERIA'S COMMITMENT TO DO ALL WHICH MAY ACHIEVE JUST AND  
LASTING SOLUTIONS TO THESE PROBLEMS. I CAN ASURE YOUR  
EXCELLENCY THAT I SHALL DO MY UTMOST TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE  
TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND TO INTESIFY THE FRIENDLY  
RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED STATES AND  
NIGERIA. END QUOTE.

CROSBY

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